NEWS RELEASE

FOR RELEASE

Hunzelman, Putzier & Co., PLC today released an audit report on Cherokee County, Iowa.

The County had local tax revenue of \$14,278,985 for the year ended June 30, 2005, which included \$903,584 in tax credits from the state. The County forwarded \$10,876,080 of the local tax revenue to the townships, school districts, cities, and other taxing bodies in the County.

The County retained \$3,402,905 of the local tax revenue to finance County operations, a seven percent decrease from the prior year. Other revenues included charges for service of \$882,950, operating grants and contributions of \$3,744,911, capital grants and contributions of \$1,570,891, unrestricted investment earnings of \$116,519, and other general revenues of \$216,064.

Expenses for County operations totaled \$8,055,836, a five percent increase from the prior year. Expenses included \$3,069,182 for Roads and Transportation, \$1,453,842 for Public Safety, and \$1,059,954 for Mental Health.

A copy of the audit report is available for review in the office of the Auditor of the State and the County Auditor's office.

CHEROKEE COUNTY

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORTS

BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS

JUNE 30, 2005

CHEROKEE COUNTY

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORTS BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS

JUNE 30, 2005

Table of Contents

		Page
Officials		3
Independent Auditor's Report		4-5
Management's Discussion and Analysis		6-13
Basic Financial Statements:	<u>Exhibit</u>	
Government-wide Financial Statements:	A	1 4
Statement of Net Assets	$egin{array}{c} \mathbf{A} \\ \mathbf{B} \end{array}$	14 15
Statement of Activities Governmental Fund Financial Statements:	D	J. m.?
Balance Sheet	С	16
Reconciliation of the Balance Sheet - Governmental Funds to the	~	, •
Statement of Net Assets	D	17
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in		
Fund Balances	E	18
Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes		
in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds to the Statement of Activities	F	19
Proprietary Fund Financial Statements:		
Statement of Net Assets	G	20
Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Fund Net Assets	Ħ	21
Statement of Cash Flows	I	22
Fiduciary Fund Financial Statements:	¥	23
Statement of Fiduciary Assets and Liabilities - Agency Funds Notes to Financial Statements	J	23 24-36
Notes to Phancial Statements		ant of
Required Supplementary Information:		
Budgetary Comparison Schedule of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes		
in Balances - Budget and Actual (Cash Basis) - All Governmental Funds		38
Budget to GAAP Reconciliation		39
Notes to Required Supplementary Information - Budgetary Reporting		40
Other Supplementary Information:	Schedule	
Nonmajor Governmental Funds:		
Combining Balance Sheet	1	42
Combining Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes		
in Fund Balances	2	43
Agency Funds:		
Combining Schedule of Fiduciary Assets and Liabilities	3	44
Combining Schedule of Changes in Fiduciary Assets and Liabilities	4	45
Schedule of Revenues by Source and Expenditures by Function -	,,,	4.5
All Governmental Funds	5	46
Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control over Financial		
Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an		
Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with		
Government Auditing Standards		47-48
Schedule of Findings		49-54

CHEROKEE COUNTY

OFFICIALS

(Before January, 2005)

Name	<u>Title</u>	Term <u>Expires</u>
James Peck LeRoy Schoon Ronald Wetherell Edwin "Bud" Clow Jeffrey Simonsen	Board of Supervisors	Jan. 2005 Jan. 2005 Jan. 2005 Jan. 2007 Jan. 2007
Bonnie Ebel	County Auditor	Jan. 2005
Lynde Lundquist	County Treasurer	Jan. 2007
Dawn Jones Coombs	County Recorder	Jan. 2007
Dave Scott	County Sheriff	Jan. 2005
Mark Cozine	County Attorney	Jan. 2007
Robert S. Hart	County Assessor	Jan. 2010
	(After January, 2005)	ces
Name	<u>Title</u>	Term <u>Expires</u>
Edwin "Bud" Clow Jeffrey Simonsen Terry Graybill Dean Schmidt Ronald Wetherell	Board of Supervisors	Jan. 2007 Jan. 2007 Jan. 2009 Jan. 2009 Jan. 2009
Bonnie Ebel		T 0000
	County Auditor	Jan. 2009
Lynde Lundquist	County Auditor County Treasurer	Jan. 2009 Jan. 2007
Lynde Lundquist Dawn Jones Coombs	•	
•	County Treasurer	Jan. 2007
Dawn Jones Coombs	County Treasurer County Recorder	Jan. 2007 Jan. 2007

HUNZELMAN, PUTZIER & CO., PLC CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

WESLEY E. STR.LE. C.P.A.
JEFFORY B. STARK, C.P.A.
KEITH C. GERMANN, C.P.A.
RICHARD R. MOORE, C.P.A.
KENNETH A. PUTZIER, C.P.A. (RETIRED)
W.J. HUNZELMAN, C.P.A. 1921-1997

1100 WEST MILWAUKEE STORM LAKE, IOWA 50588 712-732-3653 FAX 712-732-3662 info@hpcocpa.com

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Officials of Cherokee County:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of Cherokee County, Iowa, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2005, which collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of Cherokee County's management. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with U.S. generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinions.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of Cherokee County at June 30, 2005, and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows, where applicable, for the year ended in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated October 18, 2005 on our consideration of Cherokee County's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, grant agreements, and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.

Management's Discussion and Analysis and budgetary comparison information on pages 6 through 13 and 38 through 40 are not required parts of the basic financial statements, but are supplementary information required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. We did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise Cherokee County's basic financial statements. We previously audited, in accordance with the standards referred to in the second paragraph of this report, the financial statements for the three years ended June 30, 2004 (which are not presented herein) and expressed unqualified opinions on those financial statements. Other supplementary information included in Schedules 1 through 5, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Hungelman, Putgier G.

October 18, 2005

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Cherokee County provides this Management Discussion and Analysis of its financial statements. This report contains an overview and analysis of the financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2005. The following information should be considered in relation to the County's financial statements included in this report.

This is the second year that Cherokee County has been required to report all activities on a full accrual basis, as required by the reporting standards of GASB 34. The following comprehensive comparison to fiscal year 2004 makes it more meaningful for the public to understand the County's financial position and results of operations.

2005 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Cherokee County governmental fund revenues increased approximately \$86,800 from fiscal year 2004 to fiscal year 2005. Property taxes and other county tax decreased approximately \$226,000.
- Cherokee County's governmental fund expenditures decreased approximately \$899,000, from fiscal year 2004 to fiscal year 2005. Mental health expenditures increased by approximately \$116,000 and capital projects expenditures decreased approximately \$1,182,000.
- Cherokee County's net assets increased 10.4%, or approximately \$1,878,000, from June 30, 2004 to June 30, 2005.

USING THIS ANNUAL REPORT

The annual report consists of a series of financial statements and other information, as follows:

- Management's Discussion and Analysis introduces the basic financial statements and provides an analytical overview of the County's financial activities.
- The Government-wide Financial Statements consist of a Statement of Net Assets and a Statement of Activities. These provide information about the activities of Cherokee County as a whole and present an overall view of the County's finances.
- The Fund Financial Statements tell how governmental services were financed in the short term as well as what remains for future spending. Fund financial statements report Cherokee County's operations in more detail than the government-wide statements by providing information about the most significant funds. The remaining statements provide financial information about activities for which Cherokee County acts solely as an agent or custodian for the benefit of those outside of County government (Agency Funds).
- Notes to financial statements provide additional information essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the basic financial statements.
- Required Supplementary Information further explains and supports the financial statements with a comparison of the County's budget for the year.
- Other Supplementary Information provides detailed information about the nonmajor Special Revenue and the individual Agency Funds.

REPORTING THE COUNTY'S FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

Government-wide Financial Statements

Accounting methods similar to those used in private-sector businesses are used in preparing the County-wide financial statements. The information contained in these reports helps the public to understand if Cherokee County's financial position is better or worse after the fiscal year has ended.

The Statement of Net Assets includes all of Cherokee County's assets and liabilities with "net assets" being reported as the difference between assets and liabilities. Over time, increases or decreases in the County's net assets will indicate if the financial position of the county is improving or deteriorating.

The Statement of Activities includes all of the current year's revenues and expenses. All changes in net assets are reported as soon as the change occurs, regardless of when the cash was received or paid. Therefore, revenues and expenditures for some items will be reported in this statement and their resulting cash flows will be reported in future fiscal reports.

Cherokee County's governmental activities are presented in the Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities. Governmental activities include public safety and legal services, physical health and social services, mental health, county environment and education, roads and transportation, governmental services to residents, administration, and non-program activities. Property tax and state and federal grants finance most of these activities.

Fund Financial Statements

The Fund Financial Statements provide more detailed data about Cherokee County's funds. Funds are used to keep track of sources of funding and spending on particular programs. Most "major" funds are required by state law while the County establishes other funds to control and manage money for specific purposes or to show that it is properly using certain revenues such as federal grants.

Cherokee County has three kinds of funds:

1) Governmental Funds account for most of the County's basic services. These focus on how money flows into and out of those funds, and the balances left at year-end that are available for spending. The governmental funds include: 1) the General Fund, 2) the Special Revenue Funds, such as Mental Health, Rural Services and Secondary Roads, and 3) the Capital Projects Fund. These funds are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting, which measures cash and all other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash. The governmental fund financial statements provide a detailed, short-term view of the County's general governmental operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental fund information helps determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance Cherokee County's programs.

The required financial statements for governmental funds include a balance sheet and a statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances.

2) Proprietary funds account for the County's Internal Service, Employee Group Health Insurance Fund. Internal Service Funds are an accounting device used to accumulate and allocate costs internally among the County's various functions.

The required financial statements for proprietary funds include a statement of net assets, a statement of revenues, expenses and changes in fund net assets, and a statement of cash flows.

3) Fiduciary funds are used to report assets held in a trust or agency capacity for others which cannot be used to support Cherokee County's own programs.

REPORTING THE COUNTY'S FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - (Continued)

The required financial statements for fiduciary funds include a statement of fiduciary assets and liabilities.

Reconciliations between the government-wide financial statements and the fund financial statements follow the fund financial statements.

GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

As noted earlier, net assets may serve over time as a useful indicator of financial position. Cherokee County's combined net assets were \$19,898,124 for fiscal year 2005. This reflects a \$1,878,404 (10.37%) increase over fiscal year 2004 net assets of \$18,110,720. This increase can be substantially attributed to roadway construction. The analysis that follows focuses on the changes in the net assets for governmental activities.

Net Assets of Cherokee County's Governmental Activities					
	June	30.			
	2005	2004			
Current and other assets	\$ 9,428,769	\$ 9,534,160			
Capital assets	_14,306,278	12,091,826			
Total assets	23,735,047	<u>21.625,986</u>			
Other liabilities	3,745,923	3,386,455			
Total liabilities	3,745,923	<u>3,386,455</u>			
Net assets					
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	14,306,278	12,091,826			
Restricted		4,267,508			
Unrestricted	1,776,116	1,880,197			
Total net assets	\$19,989,124	S18,239,531			

Net assets of Cherokee County's governmental activities increased by \$1,878,404 compared to fiscal year 2004. The largest portion of Cherokee County's net assets is invested in capital assets (e.g., land, infrastructure, buildings, and equipment). Restricted net assets represent resources that are subject to external restrictions, constitutional provisions, or enabling legislation on how they can be used. Unrestricted net assets - the part of net assets that can be used to finance day-to-day operations without constraints established by debt covenants, enabling legislation, or other legal requirements are reported at approximately \$1,776,116 as of June 30, 2005.

Changes in Net Assets of Cherokee County's Governmental Activities

	Year Ended June 30,		
	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>	
Revenues:			
Program revenues:		da mere e e e e	
Charges for service	\$ 882,950	\$ 764,602	
Operating grants, contributions, and restricted interest	3,744,911	3,436,385	
Capital grants, contributions, and restricted interest	1,570,891	2,909,546	
General revenues:			
Property tax	3,210,286	3,435,173	
Penalty and interest on property tax	28,534	35,187	
State tax credits	192,619	211,606	
Tax increment financing	99,729	109,332	
Grants and contributions not restricted to specific purposes	56,786	72,224	
Unrestricted investment earnings	116,519	107,539	
Other general revenues	<u> 31,015</u>	<u>27,639</u>	
Total revenues	<u>9,934,240</u>	11,109,233	
Program expenses:			
Public safety and legal services	1,453,842	1,391,714	
Physical health and social services	706,160	665,880	
Mental health	1,059,954	946,653	
County environment and education	464,701	431,762	
Roads and transportation	3,069,182	2,886,480	
Governmental services to residents	277,853	260,544	
Administration	1,024,144	1,073,007	
Total expenses	8.055,836	7,656,040	
rotal expenses	0.000,000	7,030,040	
Increase in net assets	1,878,404	3,453,193	
Net assets beginning of year	18,110,720	14,657,527	
Net assets end of year	\$19,989,124	\$18,110,720	

Cherokee County's property tax revenue decreased by \$224,887 due to a 17.46% decrease in total property valuation. The County increased levy rates in both the General and Rural Funds while slightly decreasing the levy rate in the Mental Health Fund.

INDIVIDUAL MAJOR FUND ANALYSIS

As Cherokee County completed the year, its governmental funds reported a combined fund balance of \$5,758,178, a decrease of \$574,756 from last year's \$6,332,924 ending fund balance. The decrease in fund balance is primarily attributable to the decrease in rural property valuations. The Cherokee County Board of Supervisors chose to "spend down" the fund balance reserve rather than increasing property taxes for the citizens of Cherokee County. The following are the major reasons for the changes in fund balances of the major funds from the prior year:

• General Fund revenues and expenditures reflect normal increases in expenditures pertaining to labor costs and insurances increases. The ending fund balance showed a decline of \$197,998 from the prior year to \$1,760,622.

INDIVIDUAL MAJOR FUND ANALYSIS - (Continued)

- Cherokee County has continued to look for ways to effectively manage the cost of mental health services. An unforeseen increase in specialized services for one client caused expenses to increase. For the year, expenditures totaled approximately \$1,058,419 while revenues generated for this fund in fiscal year 2005 were \$921,832. The resulting decrease in the Mental Health Fund balance at year end was \$136,587.
- Rural Services ending fund balance for fiscal year 2005 was \$263,913, which is a \$113,360 decrease from the prior year's balance of \$377,273. This change is a result of Cherokee County's desire to not raise property taxes for the rural citizens.
- Secondary Roads ending fund balance decreased by \$80,143 for the year ending June 30, 2005. The prior year fund balance was \$3,245,994 and was reduced to a \$3,165,851 fund balance after completion of the 2005 year.
- Other Special Revenue Funds which include County Recorder Records Management, Conservation Land Acquisition Trust, Resource Enhancement and Protection, and the Capital Projects fund, are classified as nonmajor special revenue funds. The combined activities of these funds resulted in a decrease in fund balance of \$46,658. The ending fund balance for 2005 was \$327,321 which is a reduction from the prior year's ending fund balance of \$373,979.

BUDGETARY HIGHLIGHTS

Over the course of the year, Cherokee County amended its budget twice. The first amendment was made on September 17, 2004 by the County Board of Supervisors for the following reasons:

- Increased Other County Tax Revenue by \$60,000 for additional Local Option Sales Tax proceeds.
- Increased Intergovernmental Revenues due to three pass through grants: Simonsen Industries \$36,000;
 Emergency Management \$15,000; and Law Enforcement Center \$8,000.
- Additional expenses were amended for County Environment to allow for a \$25,000 revolving loan for Cherokee Area Economic Development in addition to \$51,700 for Aviation Authority.
- Increased Expenditures in Government Services to Residents by \$35,560 due to required repayment of the Recorder's E-Commerce funds to the State of Iowa.
- Administration was increased by \$103,500 to include the three pass through grants previously mention totaling \$59,000. The remaining \$44,500 amended the General Allocation Department with \$15,911 to be used for a Law Enforcement Center Repeater.
- Increased the July 1, 2004 cash beginning fund balance from \$4,670,545 to the actual cash fund balance of \$5,812,712.

The second amendment was made on May 3, 2005 by the County Board of Supervisors for the following reasons:

- Increased Public Safety \$113,000 for unforeseen rises in juvenile probation costs, ambulance replacement, and Drug Court Grant.
- Increased Intergovernmental Revenue to correlate with the Drug Court Grant of \$78,000.

BUDGETARY HIGHLIGHTS - (Continued)

- Increased Physical Health and Social Services \$6,500 for Synergy and MidSioux project.
- A net decrease of \$30,750 in County Environment was attained when \$51,700 for the Cherokee Aviation
 Authority was moved into the Transportation Service Area, while increasing County Environment
 \$13,000 for Cherokee Area Economic Development and \$7,950 to fulfill the Solid Waste Landfill
 contract.
- Increased Transportation \$51,700 by moving Cherokee Aviation Authority from County Environment.
- Increased Administration \$94,500 for street assessment, civil service, publications, and insurance.

CAPITAL ASSETS

Cherokee County's capital assets activity for the year ended June 30, 2005 was as follows:

Capital Assets of Governmental Activities at Year End					
	J. 13	ne 30			
	2005	2004			
Governmental activities:					
Capital assets not being depreciated:					
Land	\$ 180,750	\$ 180,750			
Construction in progress	3,085,089	2,343,459			
Total capital assets not being depreciated	3,265,839	2,524,209			
Capital assets being depreciated:					
Buildings	3,547,197	3,508,580			
Improvements other than buildings	9,750	9,750			
Equipment and vehicles	5,007,421	4,998,462			
Infrastructure, road network	6,599,495	4,578,040			
Total capital assets being depreciated	15,163,863	13,094,832			
Less accumulated depreciation for:					
Buildings	1,578,973	1,530,020			
Improvements other than buildings	2,134	1.646			
Equipment and vehicles	2,230,912	2,049,140			
Infrastructure, road network	311,405	75,220			
Total accumulated depreciation	4,123,424	3,656,026			
Total capital assets being depreciated, net	11,040,439	9,438,806			
Governmental activities capital assets, net	\$14,306,278	\$11,963,015			

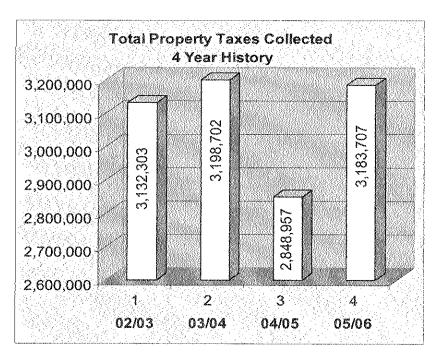
ECONOMIC FACTORS AND NEXT YEAR'S BUDGETS AND LEVY RATES

Cherokee County's elected and appointed officials and citizens considered many factors when setting the fiscal year 2006 budget, tax rates, and the fees that will be charged for various county services.

State revenue cutbacks, health insurance increases, a generally flat economy, and a decreasing balance in available funds have influenced the Cherokee County Board of Supervisors' decision concerning tax rates for the 2006 fiscal year budget.

The fiscal year 2006 budget certified tax revenues, broken down by the major funds that Cherokee County receives are as follows:

	Fiscal Year 2006 Dollars Certified	Fiscal Year 2005 Dollars Certified	Fiscal Year 2004 Dollars Certified	Fiscal Year 2003 Dollars Certified
General Fund	\$1,731,007	\$1,684,801	\$1,845,024	\$1,808,390
Mental Health Fund	346,201	336,960	415,131	406,888
Rural Basic Fund	1,106,499	827,196	938,547	917,025
Total Taxes Collected	\$3,183,707	\$2,848,957	\$3,198,702	\$3,132,303



Levy Rates (based on \$/\$1,000 taxable valuation) for Cherokee County have been:

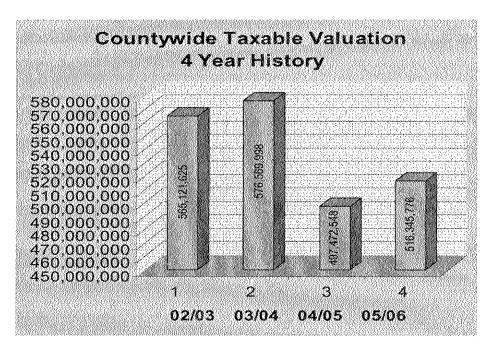
	Fiscal Year 2006 Levy Rates	Fiscal Year 2005 Levy Rates	Fiscal Year 2004 Levy Rates	Fiscal Year 2003 Levy Rates
General Fund	3.50	3.50	3.20	3.20
Mental Health Fund	.70	.70	.72	.72
Rural Basic Fund	3.25	2.47894	2.24846	2.24846

Iowa Code limits the General Fund levy rate to \$3.50 per \$1,000 of taxable value. A majority of Iowa Counties are at that limit and levy in the General Supplemental Fund which allows them to exceed the \$3.50 general basic levy for certain expenditures which include employee benefits (i.e. health insurance, FICA, and IPERS), county risk management expenditures, election costs, and court ordered settlements. The Rural Basic levy rate limit is \$3.95 per \$1,000 of taxable value. Each year, more counties are reaching that limit and are using the Rural Supplemental levy for expenditures as allowed in the general supplement fund.

ECONOMIC FACTORS AND NEXT YEAR'S BUDGETS AND LEVY RATES - (Continued)

Cherokee County's Taxable Valuations reflect a slight increase for fiscal year 2006:

	Fiscal Year 2006 Valuations	Fiscal Year 2005 <u>Valuations</u>	Fiscal Year 2004 <u>Valuations</u>	Fiscal Year 2003 <u>Valuations</u>
Rural Taxable	357,515,424	344,529,208	417,417,705	407,845,659
Urban Taxable	,	152,943,340	159,152,293	157,275,966
Total Taxable	516,345,776	497,472,548	576,569,998	565,121,625



Cherokee County has been fortunate that there have been several good economic years in the past, allowing a fund balance to carry the burden of the fiscal year 2006 budget concerns due to the decrease in valuations. Looking forward into the fiscal year 2007 budget year, Cherokee County will need to address increasing wage related benefits with potential levy rate increases in the Rural Basic levy and/or utilizing the General Basic Supplemental levy to maintain a desired 25% ending fund balance. This ending fund balance is needed to cover expenses incurred during the first quarter of the fiscal year, before any potential tax revenues are received via property tax payments.

Cherokee County anticipates a gradual increase in valuations in the upcoming budgets, however, it will take several years to gain back the extremely large decrease that was seen for fiscal year 2005. Future budget processes will present difficult balancing of covering mandated services and expenditures while maintaining a conservative attitude with the tax levy rates.

CONTACTING CHEROKEE COUNTY'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide Cherokee County's citizens, taxpayers, customers, and creditors with a general overview of Cherokee County's finances and to show the County's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact the Cherokee County Auditor's Office, 520 West Main, Cherokee, Iowa.

CHEROKEE COUNTY STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS JUNE 30, 2005

Exhibit A

		overnmental Activities
ASSETS		
Cash and pooled investments	S	5,192,313
Receivables:		
Property tax:		
Delinquent		1,759
Succeeding year		3,146,832
Interest and penalty on property tax		2,290
Accounts		353,880
Accrued interest		24,426
Due from other governments		186,516
Inventories		302,301
Prepaid expenses		218,452
Capital assets (net of accumulated depreciation)		14,306,278
Total assets	*********	23,735,047
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable		284,446
Due to other governments		152,702
Deferred revenue:		
Succeeding year property tax		3,146,832
Long-term liabilities:		
Portion due or payable within one year:		
Compensated absences		161,943
Total liabilities	*******	3,745,923
NET ASSETS		
Invested in capital assets		14,306,278
Restricted for:		
Mental health purposes		232,348
Rural service purposes		264,301
Secondary roads purposes		3,082,760
Capital projects		7,638
Other purposes		319,683
Unrestricted		1,776,116
Total net assets	\$	19,989,124

		Program Revenues							
	Expenses	Charges for Service				Capital Grants, Contributions, and Restricted Interest		R (et (Expense) evenue and Changes in Net Assets
Functions/Programs Governmental activities:									
Public safety and legal services	\$1,453,842	e	104.587	£.	82.693	e		gt.	(1 00/ 000)
Physical health and social services	706.160	Φ	347,543	ŵ	158,860	3	*	\$	(1,266,562)
Mental health	1,059,954		45,216		523,661		-		(199,757)
County environment and education	464,701		3.921		69.720		-		(491,077)
Roads and transportation	3,069,182		94.031		2,700,486		1.570.891		(391,060) 1,296,226
Governmental services to residents	277,853		214,255		209,491		1,270,091		1,290,220
Administration	1,024,144		73.397		209,491				(950,747)
Total	\$8.055,836	\$	882,950	S	3,744,911	5	1,570,891		(1,857,084)
General Revenues: Property and other county tax levied for:									
General purposes									3,210,286
Penalty and interest on property tax									28,534
State tax credits									192,619
Tax increment financing									99,729
Grants and contributions not restricted									
to specific purpose									56,786
Unrestricted investment earnings									116,519
Miscellaneous									31,015
Total general revenues									3,735,488
Change in net assets									1,878,404
Net assets beginning of year									18,110,720
Net assets end of year								\$	19,989,124

CHEROKEE COUNTY BALANCE SHEET GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS JUNE 30, 2005

		Special Revenue						
		Mental		Rural	Secondary	-		
	General		Health	Services	Roads	N	lonmajor	Total
ASSETS								
Cash and pooled investments	\$ 1,492,207	\$	405,127	\$ 212,009	\$2,718,383	\$	309,732	\$ 5,137,458
Receivables:								
Accounts	61,060		3,933	51,904	191,481		17,388	325,766
Property tax:								
Delinquent	1,142		229	388	-		79	1,759
Succeeding year	1,694,757		338,951	1,083,685	-		29,439	3,146,832
Interest and penalty on property tax	2,290		•	-	~		~	2,290
Accrued interest	24,426		-	*	~		-	24,426
Due from other governments	113,296		16,523	-	19,975		36,722	186,516
Prepaid expense	131,418		~	-	87,034		~	218,452
Inventories	-		*		302,301		-	302,301
Total assets	\$ 3,520,596	\$	764,763	\$1,347,986	\$3,319,174	S	393,281	\$ 9,345,800
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES								
Liabilities;								
Accounts payable	\$ 55,946	\$	42,794	\$ -	\$ 148,900	Š	36,521	\$ 284,161
Due to other governments	5,956		142,323	•	4,423		~	152,702
Deferred revenue:								
Succeeding year property tax	1,694,757		338,951	1,083,685	-		29,439	3,146,832
Other	3,315	~	224	388	_		-	3,927
Total liabilities	1,759,974	<i></i>	524,292	1,084,073	153,323		65,960	3,587,622
Fund balances:								
Reserved for:								
Inventories	~		-	_	302,301		٠	302,301
Unreserved, reported in:								,
General fund	1,760,622		-	_	~		_	1,760,622
Special revenue funds	_		240,471	263,913	2,863,550		319.683	3,687,617
Capital projects fund	Av		_	-			7,638	7,638
Total fund balances	1,760,622		240,471	263,913	3,165.851		327,321	5,758,178
Total liabilities and fund balances	\$ 3,520,596	\$	764,763	\$1,347,986	\$3,319,174	S	393,281	\$9,345,800

CHEROKEE COUNTY RECONCILIATION OF THE BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS

JUNE 30, 2005

Exhibit D

Total governmental fund balances	\$ 5,758,178
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Net Assets are different because:	
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the funds. The cost of assets is \$18,429,702 and the accumulated depreciation is \$4,123,424.	14,306,278
Other long-term assets are not available to pay current period expenditures and, therefore, are deferred in the funds.	3,927
The Internal Service Fund is used by management to charge the costs of partial self funding of the County's health insurance benefit plan to individual funds. The assets and liabilities of the Internal Service Fund are included in governmental activities in the Statement of Net Assets.	82,684
Compensated absences payable are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.	(161,943)
Net assets of governmental activities	\$19,989,124

CHEROKEE COUNTY STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES

GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2005

Exhibit E

		Special Revenue				
		Mental	Rural	Secondary	_	
	General	Health	Services	Roads	Nonmajor	Total
Revenues:						
Property and other County tax	\$1,665,161	\$ 333,030	\$1,122,202	\$ -	\$ 89,840	\$3,210,233
Interest and penalty on property tax	28,397	-	34	-	-	28,397
Tax increment financing revenues	-	-	-	•	99,729	99,729
Intergovernmental	810,445	544,621	50,578	2,921,550	132,472	4,459,666
Licenses and permits	80,569	•	925	26,546	-	108,040
Charges for service	298,823	32,725	410	435	2,790	335,183
Use of money and property	123,650	~	-	5,504	1,400	130,554
Miscellaneous	65,731	11,456		46,352	12,067	135,606
Total revenues	3,072,776	921,832	1,174,115	3,000,387	338,298	8,507,408
Expenditures:						
Operating:						
Public safety and legal services	1,334,256	~	~		119,940	1,454,196
Physical health and social services	706,275		~		1.500	707,775
Mental health	~	1.058.419	-	~	*,200	1,058,419
County environment and education	230,540	*	227,796		19,562	477,898
Roads and transportation	-	-	51,679	2,644,200		2,695,879
Governmental services to residents	245,702	-	_	_,,	32,973	278,675
Administration	754,001	_	_	_	210,981	964,982
Capital projects	-	-	-	1,474,330	,	1,474,330
Total expenditures	3,270,774	1,058,419	279,475	4,118,530	384,956	9,112,154
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(197,998)	(136,587)	894,640	(1,118,143)	(46,658)	(604,746)
Other financing sources (uses):						
Sale of assets				70.000		20.000
Operating transfers in	•	-	-	30,000	-	30,000
Operating transfers out	_	-	(1,008,000)	1,008,000	~	1,008,000 (1,008,000)
Total other financing sources (uses)	****	-	(1,008,000)	1,038,000		
your oner immining sources (uses)			(1,000,000)	1,038,000		30,000
Net change in fund balances	(197,998)	(136,587)	(113,360)	(80,143)	(46,658)	(574,746)
Fund balances, beginning of year	1,958,620	377,058	377,273	3,245,994	373,979	6,332,924
Fund balances, end of year	\$1,760,622	\$ 240,471	\$ 263,913	\$ 3,165,851	\$ 327,321	\$5,758,178

CHEROKEE COUNTY RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2005

Exhibit F

Net change in fund balances - Total governmental funds		\$ (574,746)
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Activities are different because:		
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures while governmental activities report depreciation expense to allocate those expenditures over the life of the assets. Capital outlay expenditures and contributed capital assets exceeded depreciation expense in the current year as follows:		
Expenditures for capital assets Capital assets contributed by the Iowa Department of Transportation Depreciation expense	\$1,595,267 1,349,827 (581,831)	2,363,263
In the Statement of Activities, the gain on the disposition of capital assets is reported whereas the governmental funds report the proceeds from the sale as an increase in financial resources.		(20,000)
Because some revenues will not be collected for several months after the County's year end, they are not considered available revenues and are deferred in the governmental funds as follows:		
Property tax Other	53 137	190
Some expenses reported in the Statement of Activities do not require the use of current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds, as follows:		
Compensated absences		25,164
The Internal Service Fund is used by management to charge the costs of employee health benefits to individual funds. The change in net assets of the Internal Service Fund is reported with governmental activities.		84,533
Change in net assets of governmental activities		\$_1,878,404

CHEROKEE COUNTY STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS PROPRIETARY FUND

Exhibit G

JUNE 30, 2005	
	Internal Service- Employee Group Health
ASSETS Cash Accounts receivable Total assets	\$ 54,855 28,114 82,969
LIABILITIES Accounts payable	285
NET ASSETS Unrestricted	<u>\$ 82,684</u>

CHEROKEE COUNTY STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN FUND NET ASSETS

PROPRIETARY FUND YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2005

Exhibit H

		Internal Service- Employee Group Health
Operating revenues:		
Reimbursements from employees	\$ 23,631	
Reimbursements from operating funds	56,266	
Insurance reimbursements	28,114	\$108,011
Operating expenses:		
Insurance premiums	21,605	
Other	1,943	23,548
Operating income		84,463
Non-operating revenues:		
Interest income		70
Net income		84,533
Net assets beginning of year		(1,849)
Net assets end of year		\$ 82,684

CHEROKEE COUNTY STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS PROPRIETARY FUND YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2005

Exhibit I

	Internal Service- Employee Group Health
Cash flows from operating activities:	
Cash received from employees	\$ 22,081
Cash received from operating fund reimbursements	56,266
Cash payments to suppliers for services	(32,332)
Net cash provided by operating activities	46,015
Cash flows from investing activities: Interest on investments	70
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	46,085
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	8,770
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	\$ 54,855
Reconciliation of operating income to net cash provided by operating activities:	
Operating income Adjustments to reconcile operating income to net	\$ 84,463
cash provided by operating activities:	/00.11.0
Increase in accounts receivable	(28,114)
Decrease in accounts payable	(10,334)
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$ 46,015

CHEROKEE COUNTY STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

AGENCY FUNDS JUNE 30, 2005

Exhibit J

ASSETS	
Cash and pooled investments:	
County treasurer	\$ 855,540
Other county officials	55,682
Receivables:	
Property tax:	
Delinquent	8,739
Succeeding year	10,233,056
Accounts	14,385
Special assessments	225,006
Total assets	11,392,408
LIABILITIES	
Accounts payable	4,996
Trusts payable	18,754
Due to other governments	11,368,658
Total liabilities	11,392,408
Net Assets	\$

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Cherokee County is a political subdivision of the State of Iowa and operates under the Home Rule provisions of the Constitution of Iowa. The County operates under the Board of Supervisors form of government. Elections are on a partisan basis. Other elected officials operate independently with the Board of Supervisors. These officials are the Auditor, Treasurer, Recorder, Sheriff, and Attorney. The County provides numerous services to citizens, including law enforcement, health and social services, parks and cultural activities, planning and zoning, roadway construction and maintenance, and general administrative services.

The County's financial statements are prepared in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles as prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board.

A. Reporting Entity

For financial reporting purposes, Cherokee County has included all funds, organizations, agencies, boards, commissions, and authorities. The County has also considered all potential component units for which it is financially accountable, and other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the County are such that exclusion would cause the County's financial statements to be misleading or incomplete. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board has set forth criteria to be considered in determining financial accountability. These criteria include appointing a voting majority of an organization's governing body, and (1) the ability of the County to impose its will on that organization or (2) the potential for the organization to provide specific benefits to, or impose specific financial burdens on, the County. The County has no component units that meet the Governmental Accounting Standards Board criteria.

Jointly Governed Organizations - The County also participates in several jointly governed organizations that provide goods or services to the citizenry of the County but do not meet the criteria of a joint venture since there is no ongoing financial interest or responsibility by the participating governments. The County Board of Supervisors are members of or appoint representatives to the following boards and commissions: Cherokee County Assessor's Conference Board, Cherokee County E911 Service Board, Plains Area Mental Health, Cherokee County Solid Waste Commission, and the Northwest Iowa Multicounty Regional Juvenile Detention Center. Financial transactions of these organizations are included in the County's financial statements only to the extent of the County's fiduciary relationship with the organization and, as such, are reported in Agency Funds of the County.

B. Basis of Presentation

Government-wide Financial Statements - The Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities report information on all of the nonfiduciary activities of the County. For the most part, the effect of interfund activity has been removed from these statements. Governmental activities are supported by property tax, intergovernmental revenues and other nonexchange transactions.

The Statement of Net Assets presents the County's nonfiduciary assets and liabilities, with the difference reported as net assets. Net assets are reported in three categories.

Invested in capital assets consists of capital assets net of accumulated depreciation and reduced by outstanding balances for bonds, notes and other debt attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)

B. Basis of Presentation - (Continued)

Restricted net assets result when constraints placed on net asset use are either externally imposed or imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Unrestricted net assets consist of net assets that do not meet the definition of the two preceding categories. Unrestricted net assets often have constraints on resources imposed by management, which can be removed or modified.

The Statement of Activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function are offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those clearly identifiable with a specific function. Program revenues include (1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function and (2) grants and contributions restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function. Property tax and other items not properly included among program revenues are reported instead as general revenues.

<u>Fund Financial Statements</u> - Separate financial statements are provided for governmental funds, proprietary funds, and fiduciary funds, even though the latter are excluded from the government-wide financial statements. Major individual governmental funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements. All remaining governmental funds are aggregated and reported as nonmajor governmental funds.

The County reports the following major governmental funds:

The General Fund is the general operating fund of the County. All general tax revenues and other revenues not allocated by law or contractual agreement to some other fund are accounted for in this fund. From the fund are paid the general operating expenditures, the fixed charges, and the capital improvement costs that are not paid from other funds.

Special Revenue:

The Mental Health Fund is used to account for property tax and other revenues designated to be used to fund mental health, mental retardation, and developmental disabilities services.

The Rural Services Fund is used to account for property tax and other revenues to provide services which are primarily intended to benefit those persons residing in the county outside of incorporated city areas.

The Secondary Roads Fund is used to account for secondary road construction and maintenance.

Additionally, the County reports the following funds:

The Capital Projects Fund is used to account for all resources used in the acquisition and construction of capital facilities.

Proprietary Fund - An Internal Service Fund is utilized to account for the financing of goods or services purchased by one department of the County and provided to other departments or agencies on a cost reimbursement basis.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)

B. Basis of Presentation - (Continued)

Fiduciary Funds - Agency Funds are used to account for assets held by the County as an agent for individuals, private organizations, certain jointly governed organizations, other governmental units and/or other funds.

C. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

The government-wide, proprietary fund, and fiduciary fund financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Property tax is recognized as revenue in the year for which it is levied. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been satisfied.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the County considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days after year end.

Property tax, intergovernmental revenues, (shared revenues, grants and reimbursements from other governments) and interest are considered to be susceptible to accrual. All other revenue items are considered to be measurable and available only when each is received by the County.

Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, principal and interest on long-term debt, claims and judgments and compensated absences are recorded as expenditures only when payment is due. Capital asset acquisitions are reported as expenditures in governmental funds. Proceeds of general long-term debt and acquisitions under capital leases are reported as other financing sources.

Under the terms of grant agreements, the County funds certain programs by a combination of specific cost-reimbursement grants, categorical block grants and general revenues. Thus, when program expenses are incurred, there are both restricted and unrestricted net assets available to finance the program. It is the County's policy to first apply cost-reimbursements grant resources to such programs, followed by categorical block grants, and then by general revenues.

The proprietary fund of the County applies all applicable GASB pronouncements, as well as the following pronouncements issued on or before November 30, 1989, unless these pronouncements conflict with or contradict GASB pronouncements: Financial Accounting Standards Board Statements and Interpretations, Accounting Principles Board Opinions and Accounting Research Bulletins of the Committee on Accounting Procedure.

Proprietary funds distinguish operating revenues and expenses from non-operating items. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services and producing and delivering goods in connection with a proprietary fund's principal ongoing operations. The principal operating revenues of the County's Internal Service Fund is charges to customers for sales and services. Operating expenses for internal service funds include the cost of services and administrative expenses. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as non-operating revenues and expenses.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)

C. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting - (Continued)

The County maintains its financial records on the cash basis. The financial statements of the County are prepared by making memorandum adjusting entries to the cash basis financial records.

D. Assets, Liabilities and Fund Equity

The following accounting policies are followed in preparing the balance sheet:

<u>Cash, Pooled Investments, and Cash Equivalents</u> - The cash balances of most County funds are pooled and invested. Interest earned on investments is recorded in the General Fund, unless otherwise provided by law. Investments are stated at fair value except for non-negotiable certificates of deposit which are stated at cost.

For purposes of the statement of cash flows, all short-term cash investments that are highly liquid are considered to be cash equivalents. Cash equivalents are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and, at the day of purchase, they have a maturity date no longer than three months.

<u>Property Tax Receivable</u> - Property tax in governmental funds is accounted for using the modified accrual basis of accounting.

Property tax receivable is recognized in these funds on the levy or lien date, which is the date the tax asking is certified by the County Board of Supervisors. Delinquent property taxes receivable represents unpaid taxes for the current and prior years. The succeeding year property tax receivable represents taxes certified by the Board of Supervisors to be collected in the next fiscal year for the purposes set out in the budget for the next fiscal year. By statute, the Board of Supervisors is required to certify its budget in March of each year for the subsequent fiscal year. However, by statute, the tax asking and budget certification for the following fiscal year becomes effective on the first day of that year. Although the succeeding year property tax receivable has been recorded, the related revenue is deferred in both the government-wide and fund financial statements and will not be recognized as revenue until the year for which it is levied.

Property tax revenues recognized in these funds become due and collectible in September and March of the fiscal year with a 1½% per month penalty for delinquent payments; is based on January 1, 2003 assessed property valuations; is for the tax accrual period July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2005; and reflects the tax asking contained in the budget certified by the County Board of Supervisors in March, 2004.

<u>Interest and Penalty on Property Tax Receivable</u> - Interest and penalty on property tax receivable represents the amount of interest and penalty that was due and payable but has not been collected.

<u>Due from Other Governments</u> - Due from other governments represents amounts due from the State of Iowa, various shared revenues, grants, and reimbursements from other governments.

<u>Inventories</u> - Inventories are valued at cost using the first-in, first-out method. Inventories in the Special Revenue Funds consist of expendable supplies held for consumption. Inventories of governmental funds are recorded as expenditures when consumed rather than when purchased. Reported inventories in the governmental fund financial statements are equally offset by a fund balance reserve which indicates that they are not available to liquidate current obligations.

1. <u>SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES</u> - (Continued)

D. Assets, Liabilities and Fund Equity - (Continued)

Capital Assets - Capital assets, which include property, equipment and vehicles, and infrastructure assets (e.g., roads, bridges, curbs, gutters, sidewalks, and similar items which are immovable and of value only to the government), are reported in the governmental activities column in the government-wide Statement of Net Assets. Capital assets are recorded at historical cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed. Donated capital assets are recorded at estimated fair market value at the date of donation. The costs of normal maintenance and repair that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend asset lives are not capitalized. Reportable capital assets are defined by the County as assets with initial, individual costs in excess of the following thresholds and estimated useful lives in excess of two years.

Asset Class	Amount
Infrastructure	\$65,000
Buildings	25,000
Equipment	10,000

Capital assets of the County are depreciated using the straight line method over the following estimated useful lives:

Asset Class	Estimated Useful Lives (<u>In Years</u>)
Buildings	15-100
Infrastructure	20-65
Equipment and vehicles	5-25

<u>Due to Other Governments</u> - Due to other governments represents taxes and other revenues collected by the County and payments for services which will be remitted to other governments.

<u>Trusts Payable</u> - Trusts payable represent amounts due to others which are held by various County officials in fiduciary capacities until the underlying legal matters are resolved.

<u>Deferred Revenue</u> - Although certain revenues are measurable, they are not available. Available means collected within the current period or expected to be collected soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current period. Deferred revenue in the governmental fund financial statements represents the amount of assets that have been recognized, but the related revenue has not been recognized since the assets are not collected within the current period or expected to be collected soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current period. Deferred revenue consists of the succeeding year property tax receivable, as well as delinquent property tax receivable and other receivables not collected within sixty days after year end.

Deferred revenue in the Statement of Net Assets consists of succeeding year property tax receivable that will not be recognized as revenue until the year for which it is levied and unspent grant proceeds.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)

D. Assets, Liabilities and Fund Equity - (Continued)

Compensated Absences - County employees accumulate a limited amount of earned but unused vacation and compensatory hours for subsequent use or for payment upon termination, death, or retirement. A liability is recorded when incurred in the government-wide, proprietary fund, and fiduciary fund financial statements. A liability for these amounts is reported in governmental fund financial statements only for employees that have resigned or retired. The compensated absences liability has been computed based on rates of pay in effect at June 30, 2005. The compensated absences liability attributable to the governmental activities will be paid primarily by the General, Mental Health, and Secondary Roads Funds.

<u>Fund Equity</u> - In the governmental fund financial statements, reservations of fund balance are reported for amounts that are not available for appropriation or are legally restricted by outside parties for use for a specific purpose. Designations of fund balance represent tentative management plans that are subject to change.

E. Budgets and Budgetary Accounting

The budgetary comparison and related disclosures are reported as Required Supplementary Information. During the year ended June 30, 2005, disbursements did not exceed the amounts budgeted in any functions.

2. CASH AND POOLED INVESTMENTS

The County's deposits in banks at June 30, 2005 were entirely covered by Federal depository insurance or by the State Sinking Fund in accordance with Chapter 12C of the Code of Iowa. This chapter provides for additional assessments against the depositories to ensure there will be no loss of public funds.

The County is authorized by statute to invest public funds in obligations of the United States government, its agencies and instrumentalities; certificates of deposit or other evidences of deposit at federally insured depository institutions approved by the Board of Supervisors; prime eligible bankers acceptances; certain high rated commercial paper; perfected repurchase agreements; certain registered open-end management investment companies; certain joint investment trusts; and warrants or improvement certificates of a drainage district.

The County had no investments meeting the disclosure requirements of Government Auditing Standards Board Statement Number 3.

The County's investment policy limits the investment of operating funds (funds expected to be expended in the current budget year or within 15 months of receipt) in instruments that mature within 397 days. Funds not identified as operating funds may be invested in investments with maturities longer than 397 days but the maturities shall be consistent with the needs and use of the County.

3. INTERFUND TRANSFERS

The detail of interfund transfers for the year ended June 30, 2005 is as follows:

<u>Transfer to</u>	Transfer from	<u>Amount</u>
Special Revenue:	Special Revenue:	
Secondary Roads	Rural Services	\$1,008,000
	29	

3. <u>INTERFUND TRANSFERS</u> - (Continued)

Transfers generally move resources from the fund statutorily required to collect the resources to the fund statutorily required to expend the resources.

4. CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital assets activity for the year ended June 30, 2005 was as follows:

	Balance Beginning of Year	Increases	<u>Decreases</u>	Balance End of Year
Governmental activities:				
Capital assets not being depreciated:				
Land	\$ 180,750	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 180,750
Construction in progress	<u>2,343,459</u>	<u>741,630</u>		3,085,089
Total capital assets not being depreciated	2,524,209	<u>741,630</u>	**	3,265,839
Capital assets being depreciated:				
Buildings	3,508,580	38,617	-	3,547,197
Improvements other than buildings	9,750		Min	9,750
Equipment and vehicles	4,998,462	151,775	(142,816)	5,007,421
Infrastructure	4,578,040	<u>2,021,455</u>	-	6,599,495
Total capital assets being depreciated	<u>13,094,832</u>	<u>2,211,847</u>	<u>(142,816</u>)	15,163,863
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Buildings	1,530,020	48,953	-	1,578,973
Improvements other than buildings	1,646	488	• 	2,134
Equipment and vehicles	2,049,140	296,205	(114,433)	2,230,912
Infrastructure	75,220	<u>236,185</u>		311,405
Total accumulated depreciation	<u>3,656,026</u>	581,831	<u>(114,433</u>)	4,123,424
Total capital assets being depreciated, net	9,438,806	1,630,016	(28,383)	11,040,439
Governmental activities capital assets, net	\$11,963,015	\$2,371,646	\$ (28,383)	\$14,306,278

Depreciation expense was charged to the following functions:

Governmental activities:	
Public safety and legal services	\$ 32,570
Physical health and social services	3,003
Mental health	3,274
County environment and education	12,441
Roads and transportation	472,550
Governmental services to residents	4,800
Administration	<u>53,193</u>
Total depreciation expense - governmental activities	<u>\$581,831</u>

5. DUE TO OTHER GOVERNMENTS

The County purchases services from other governmental units and also acts as a fee and tax collection agent for various governmental units. The Agency Fund collections also include accruals of property tax for the succeeding year. The tax collections are remitted to those governments in the month following collection. A summary of amounts due to other governments is as follows:

Fund	Description	Amount
General	Services	\$ 5,956
Special Revenue:		
Mental Health	Services	142,323
Secondary Roads		4,423
•		146,746
Total for governmental funds	3	\$ 152,702
Trust and Agency:		
County Assessor	Collections	423,297
Schools		6,751,517
Community Colleges		326,815
Corporations		2,677,450
Townships		189,514
Auto License and Use Tax		281,303
Agricultural Extension		147,394
All other		<u>571,368</u>
Total for agency funds		\$11,368,658

6. CHANGES IN LONG-TERM LIABILITIES

A summary of changes in long-term liabilities for the year ended June 30, 2005 is as follows:

C	om:	pensat	ted.	A	bsences:
---	-----	--------	------	---	----------

Collocidate a countries.	
Balance, beginning of year	\$187,107
Decreases	<u>25,164</u>
Balance, end of year	\$161,943
Due within one year	\$161.943

7. PENSION AND RETIREMENT BENEFITS

The County contributes to the Iowa Public Employees Retirement System (IPERS) which is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by the State of Iowa. IPERS provides retirement and death benefits which are established by State statute to plan members and beneficiaries. IPERS issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. The report may be obtained by writing to IPERS, P.O. Box 9117, Des Moines, IA, 50306-9117.

7. PENSION AND RETIREMENT BENEFITS - (Continued)

Plan members are required to contribute 3.70% of their annual covered salary and the County is required to contribute 5.75% of annual covered payroll, except for law enforcement employees, in which case the percentages for the year ended June 30, 2005 are 5.10% and 7.66%, respectively. For the year ended June 30, 2004, the contribution rates for law enforcement employees and the County were 4.99% and 7.48%, respectively, and for the year ended June 30, 2003, the contribution rates for law enforcement employees and the County were 5.37% and 7.48%, respectively. Contribution requirements are established by State statute. The County's contribution to IPERS for the years ended June 30, 2005, 2004, and 2003 were \$185,026, \$182,600, and \$178,994, respectively, equal to the required contributions for each year.

8. RISK MANAGEMENT

Cherokee County is a member in the Iowa Communities Assurance Pool, as allowed by Chapter 331.301 of the Code of Iowa. The Iowa Communities Assurance Pool (Pool) is a local government risk-sharing pool with over 509 members from various governmental entities throughout the State of Iowa. The Pool was formed in August 1986 for the purpose of managing and funding third-party liability claims against its members. The Pool provides coverage and protection in the following categories: general liability, automobile liability, automobile physical damage, public officials liability, police professional liability, property, and inland marine. There have been no reductions in insurance coverage from prior years.

Each member's annual casualty contributions to the Pool fund current operations and provide capital. Annual operating contributions are those amounts necessary to fund, on a cash basis, the Pool's general and administrative expenses, claims, claim expenses and reinsurance expenses due and payable in the current year, plus all or any portion of any deficiency in capital. Capital contributions are made during the first six years of membership and are maintained to equal 300 percent of the total current members' basis rates or to comply with the requirements of any applicable regulatory authority having jurisdiction over the Pool.

The Pool also provides property coverage. Members who elect such coverage make annual operating contributions which are necessary to fund, on a cash basis, the Pool's general and administrative expenses and reinsurance premiums, all of which are due and payable in the current year, plus all or any portion of any deficiency in capital. Any year-end operating surplus is transferred to capital. Deficiencies in operations are offset by transfers from capital and, if insufficient, by the subsequent year's member contributions.

The County's property and casualty contributions to the risk pool are recorded as expenditures from its operating funds at the time of payment to the risk pool. The County's annual contributions to the Pool for the year ended June 30, 2005 were \$95,089.

The Pool uses reinsurance and excess risk-sharing agreements to reduce its exposure to large losses. The Pool retains general, automobile, police professional, and public officials' liability risks up to \$250,000 per claim. Claims exceeding \$250,000 are reinsured in an amount not to exceed \$1,750,000 per claim and \$5,000,000 in the aggregate per year. For members requiring specific coverage from \$2,000,000 to \$10,000,000, such excess coverage is also reinsured. Property and automobile physical damage risks are retained by the Pool up to \$100,000 each occurrence, each location, with excess coverage reinsured on an individual member basis.

8. RISK MANAGEMENT - (Continued)

The Pool's intergovernmental contract with its members provides that in the event a casualty claim or series of claims exceeds the amount of risk-sharing protection provided by the member's risk-sharing certificate, or in the event that a series of casualty claims exhausts total members' equity plus any reinsurance and any excess risk-sharing recoveries, then payment of such claims shall be the obligation of the respective individual member. The County does not report a liability for losses in excess of reinsurance or excess risk-sharing recoveries unless it is deemed probable that such losses have occurred and the amount of such loss can be reasonably estimated. Accordingly, at June 30, 2005, no liability has been recorded in the County's financial statements. As of June 30, 2005, settled claims have not exceeded the risk pool or reinsurance coverage since the pool's inception.

Members agree to continue membership in the Pool for a period of not less than one full year. After such period, a member who has given 60 days prior written notice may withdraw from the Pool. Upon withdrawal, payments for all claims and claim expenses become the sole responsibility of the withdrawing member, regardless of whether a claim was incurred or reported prior to the member's withdrawal. Members withdrawing within the first six years of membership may receive a partial refund of their capital contributions. If a member withdraws after the sixth year, the member is refunded 100 percent of its capital contributions. However, the refund is reduced by an amount equal to the annual operating contribution which the withdrawing member would have made for the one-year period following withdrawal.

The County also carries commercial insurance purchased from other insurers for coverage associated with workers compensation and employee blanket bond in the amount of \$5,000,000 and \$20,000, respectively. The County Treasurer and County Sheriff have excess coverage of \$50,000 and \$30,000, respectively. The County assumes liability for any deductibles and claims in excess of coverage limitations. Settled claims resulting from these risks have not exceeded commercial insurance coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

9. EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN

Cherokee County entered into an administrative services agreement with Employee Benefit Systems to administer the employee partial self-funded health plan. Monthly payments of service fees and plan contributions are recorded as expenditures in the operating funds at the time of payment to the Internal Service, Employee Partial Self-Funded Health Plan Fund maintained by the County Treasurer. Under the agreement, deductible and coinsurance expenses are processed by Employee Benefit Systems with payments from the Internal Service, Employee Partial Self-Funded Health Plan Fund. The employer sponsors a group insurance policy which provides comprehensive hospital and medical coverage for eligible employees and, if elected, their spouses and dependents. Under the partial self-funded plan, the Plan will reimburse an eligible employee for a portion of the deductible and coinsurance expenses under the contract.

10. INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT

The County participates in an agreement with Cherokee County Solid Waste Commission, a political subdivision created under Chapter 28E of the Code of Iowa. The purpose of the Commission includes providing economic disposal of solid waste produced or generated within the member county and municipalities. Payments to that commission totaled \$105,975 during the year ended June 30, 2005.

10. INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT - (Continued)

State and federal laws and regulations require the Commission to place a final cover on its landfill site when it stops accepting waste and to perform certain maintenance and monitoring functions at the site for thirty years after closure. The total costs to the Commission have been estimated at \$1,120,456 as of June 30, 2005 and the portion of the liability that has been recognized is \$977,643. The Commission has begun to accumulate resources to fund these costs, and at June 30, 2005 deposits of \$206,135 are restricted for these purposes. The closure care account is fully funded at June 30, 2005, however, the local government guaranty was used in prior years for the Commission to demonstrate financial assurance for postclosure care costs. The Commission obtained the local government guaranty from Cherokee County on June 10, 1997. No estimate has been made as to the effect of possible future assessments to the County.

11. DEVELOPMENT AND REBATE AGREEMENT

The County has entered into development agreements to assist in urban renewal projects. The County agreed to rebate incremental taxes paid by the developer in exchange for infrastructure improvements constructed by the developer as set forth in the urban renewal plan. Under the first agreement, the incremental taxes to be received by the County under Chapter 403.19 of the Code of Iowa from the developer will be rebated for a period of ten years beginning with the tax year in which the property taxes on the completed value of the improvements are first paid. The total amount that will be rebated over the ten year period under the development and rebate agreement cannot be determined. The amount to be rebated each year will be 65% of the property taxes calculated on a minimum value of \$4,000,000. During the year ended June 30, 2005, the County rebated \$70,049 of incremental taxes to the developer. No bonds or notes were issued for this construction project.

Under the second agreement, the incremental taxes to be received by the County under Chapter 403.19 of the Code of Iowa from the developer will be rebated for a period of ten years beginning with the tax year in which the property taxes on the completed value of the improvements are first paid. The total amount that will be rebated over the ten year period under the development and rebate agreement cannot be determined. The amount to be rebated each year will be 65% of the property taxes calculated. During the year ended June 30, 2005, the County rebated \$8,864 of incremental taxes to the developer. No bonds or notes were issued for this construction project.

Under the third agreement, the incremental taxes to be received by the County under Chapter 403.19 of the Code of Iowa from the developer will be rebated for a period of ten years beginning with the tax year in which the property taxes on the completed value of the improvements are first paid. The total amount that will be rebated over the thirteen year period under the development and rebate agreement cannot be determined. The amount to be rebated each year will be 65% of the property taxes calculated. During the year ended June 30, 2005, the County rebated \$20,248 of incremental taxes to the developer. No bonds or notes were issued for this construction project.

CHEROKEE COUNTY NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2005

12. COMMITMENTS

The County has entered into the following contracts which were not completed as of June 30, 2005:

<u>Project</u>	Total Contract <u>Amount</u>	Costs Incurred As of 6-30-05	Remaining Commitment As of 6-30-05
Mill Creek bridge, engineering	\$ 88,000	\$29,510	\$ 58,490
Purchase of motorgrader	170,000	<u>-</u>	170,000
Box culvert on 480 th Street	<u> 138,396</u>	MAIN.	138,396
	<u>\$396,396</u>	\$29,510	\$366,886

The balance remaining at June 30, 2005 will be paid as work on the projects progress.

In May 2005, the County co-signed a loan taken out by the EMS Board for equipment purchases that were subsequently reimbursed by grant proceeds. The County agreed to pay the interest on the loan. In December 2005, the loan was paid off and the County paid the interest due.

13. JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER

The County participates in Northwest Iowa Multicounty Regional Juvenile Detention Center, a jointly governed organization formed pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 28E of the Code of Iowa. The purpose of the Center is to establish and maintain a juvenile detention facility and related services. The Center does not determine capital allocations of the equity interest for individual participating jurisdictions. The Center issues separate financial statements on the accrual basis, and the transactions of the Center are not included in the financial statements of the County. The Center's activity for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2005, which is the latest information available, is summarized as follows:

Net assets, beginning of year	\$248,507
Revenues	541,657
Expenses	496,236
Net assets, end of year	\$293,928

The financial statements of the Center are available at the Center's administrative office in Cherokee, Iowa.

14. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The County had business transactions between the County and County officials or employees totaling \$10,843 during the year ended June 30, 2005.

15. ACCOUNTING RESTATEMENTS

Beginning net assets for governmental activities has been restated to reflect a change in capital assets. This restatement is summarized below:

Net assets June 30, 2004, as previously reported	\$18,239,531
Restatement of beginning capital assets	(128,811)
Restated net assets June 30, 2004	\$18,110,720

CHEROKEE COUNTY NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2005

16. ESTIMATES

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results may differ from those estimates.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

BUDGETARY COMPARISON

$\underline{SCHEDULE\ OF\ RECEIPTS,\ DISBURSEMENTS,\ AND}$

CHANGES IN BALANCES - BUDGET

AND ACTUAL (CASH BASIS) - ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2005

		Budgeted		Final to Actual
	Actual	<u>Original</u>	Final	Yariance
Receipts:				
Property and other County tax	\$3,212,573	\$3,099,196	\$3,159,196	\$ 53,377
Interest and penalty on property tax	28,389	8,600	8,600	19,789
Tax increment financing revenues	99,729	99,729	99,729	Her
Intergovernmental	4,300,724	4,373,325	4,510,325	(209,601)
Licenses and permits	43,605	19,924	19,924	23,681
Charges for service	331,022	266,680	266,680	64,342
Use of money and property	124,430	167,050	167,050	(42,620)
Miscellaneous	126,253	23,825	23,825	102,428
Total receipts	8,266,725	8,058,329	8,255,329	11,396
Disbursements:				
Operating:				
Public safety and legal services	1,426,529	1,450,154	1,563,154	136,625
Physical health and social services	693,934	717,141	723,641	29,707
Mental health	1,016,219	1,054,370	1,054,370	38,151
County environment and education	468,210	457,721	503,671	35,461
Roads and transportation	2,752,404	2,828,400	2,880,100	127,696
Governmental services to residents	275,850	258,079	293,639	17,789
Administration	931,645	888,969	1,086,969	155,324
Capital projects	1,407,188	2,200,000	2,200,000	792,812
Total disbursements	8,971,979	9,854,834	10,305,544	1,333,565
Excess (deficiency) of receipts over disbursements	(705,254)	(1,796,505)	(2,050,215)	1,344,961
Other financing sources, net	30,000	505	505	29,495
Excess (deficiency) of receipts and other financing sources over disbursements and other financing uses	(675,254)	(1,796,000)	(2,049,710)	1,374,456
Balance beginning of year	5,812,712	4,670,545	5,812,712	Ni-
Balance end of year	\$5,137,458	\$2,874,545	\$3,763,002	\$1,374,456

CHEROKEE COUNTY BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE-BUDGET TO GAAP RECONCILIATION REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2005

	Governmental Funds										
			Modified								
	Cash		Accrual		Accrual						
	Basis	Ac	ljustments		Basis						
Revenues	\$ 8,266,725	\$	240,683	\$	8,507,408						
Expenditures	8,971,979	*******	140,175		9,112,154						
Net	(705,254)		100,508		(604,746)						
Other financing sources, net	30,000		···		30,000						
Beginning fund balances	5,812,712		520,212		6,332,924						
Ending fund balances	\$ 5,137,458	\$	620,720	\$	5,758,178						

CHEROKEE COUNTY NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION - BUDGETARY REPORTING JUNE 30, 2005

This budgetary comparison is presented as Required Supplementary Information in accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 41 for governments with significant budgetary perspective differences resulting from not being able to present budgetary comparisons for the General Fund and each major Special Revenue Fund.

In accordance with the Code of Iowa, the County Board of Supervisors annually adopts a budget on the cash basis following required public notice and hearing for all funds except blended component units and Agency Funds, and appropriates the amount deemed necessary for each of the different County offices and departments. The budget may be amended during the year utilizing similar statutorily prescribed procedures. Encumbrances are not recognized on the cash basis budget and appropriations lapse at year end.

Formal and legal budgetary control is based upon ten major classes of expenditures known as functions, not by fund or fund type. These ten functions are: public safety and legal services, physical health and social services, mental health, county environment and education, roads and transportation, governmental services to residents, administration, non-program, debt service, and capital projects. Function disbursements required to be budgeted include disbursements for the General Fund, Special Revenue Funds, Debt Service Fund, and Capital Projects Funds. Although the budget document presents function disbursements by fund, the legal level of control is at the aggregated function level, not by fund. Legal budgetary control is also based upon the appropriation to each office or department. During the year, two budget amendments increased budgeted disbursements by \$450,710. The budget amendments are reflected in the final budgeted amounts.

In addition, annual budgets are similarly adopted in accordance with the Code of Iowa by the appropriate governing body as indicated: for the County Extension Office by the County Agricultural Extension Council; for the County Assessor by the County Conference Board; for the E911 System by the E911 Service Board; and for Disaster Services by the Cherokee County Emergency Management Commission.

OTHER SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Schedule 1

CHEROKEE COUNTY COMBINING BALANCE SHEET NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS JUNE 30, 2005

									Special	Revenue										
		esource		ounty				corder's			Hotel and		Urban						•	
		ancement		order's		ounty		ectronic		Forfeited	Flood		enewal				servation	Drug		
		and		cords		ernment	Tra	nsaction	County	Property	Relief		Tax		servation		Land	Court	Capital	
	Pre	otection	Man	agement	As:	istance		Fee	Betterment	Eund	Grants	lno	crement	Edi	ucation	Ac	quisition	Grant	Projects	Total
ASSETS																				
Cash and pooled investments	\$	68,902	\$	4,915	\$	2,271	\$	8,321	\$ 109,867	\$ 2,641	\$ 33	5	-	\$	2,276	\$	38,022	\$ 64,846	\$ 7,638	\$309,732
Receivables:																				•
Accounts		-		~		-		-	17.302	86	_		→		*		-	•	-	17,388
Property tax:																				
Succeeding year		*				-		•	•	-	-		29,439		-		-	-	-	29,439
Due from other governments	***********			722	-				*	*	36,000		*		-	************	~	-	_	36,722
Total assets	\$	68,902	<u>S</u>	5,637	5	2,271	\$	8,321	\$ 127,169	\$ 2,727	\$ 36,033	<u>\$</u>	29,439	\$	2,276	\$	38,022	\$ 64,846	\$ 7,638	<u>\$ 393,281</u>
LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY																				
Liabilities:																				
Accounts payable	\$	-	\$	~	\$	*	\$	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 36,000	S	-	\$	_	\$	•	\$ 521	S -	\$ 36,521
Deferred revenue:																				
Succeeding year property tax				_		-	**********	•	*	*	*		29,439				-	-	-	29,439
Total liabilities		*	-9-10-2-1-1	·		**	-				36,000		29,439	-		*******		521	-	65,960
Fund equity:																				
Unreserved		68,902		5,637		2.271		8,321	127,169	2.727	33		-		2,276		38.022	64,325	7,638	327,321
Total fund equity	mhanannina	68,902		5,637		2,271		8,321	127,169	2,727	33		,-		2,276		38,022	64,325	7,638	327,321
Total liabilities and fund equity	\$	68,902	S	5,637	Secretary.	2,271	\$	8,321	\$ 127,169	\$ 2,727	\$ 36,033	5	29,439	\$	2,276	3	38,022	\$ 64,846	\$ 7,638	\$ 393,281

COMBINING SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES

AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2005

Schedule 2

	Special Revenue														
	Re	source	C	sunty Recorder's Hotel and Urbaa											
	Enha	ncement	Rec	order's	County	Electronic		Forfeited	Flood	Renewal		Conservation	Drug		
		and	Re	cords	Government	Transaction	County	Property	Relief	Tax	Conservation	Land	Court	Capital	
	Pro	tection	Mana	igement	Assistance	Fee	Betterment	Fund	Grants	Increment	Education	Acquisition	Grant	Projects	Total
Revenues:															
Property and other County tax	\$	-	S	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 89,840	S -	\$ -	\$ -	\$	\$.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 89,840
Tax increment financing revenues		~		*	-	-	-	~	~	99,729	~	-	-	_	99.729
Intergovernmental		9.881		-	_		-	J	44,341	~	-	-	78,250		132,472
Charges for service		~		2,790	-		_	-	´-	_	-	-		_	2.790
Use of money and property		795		47	_	164		*	_	•	-	394	*	-	1,400
Miscellaneous				_			10,000	1,569	_	~	498	-			12,067
Total revenue	****	10,676		2,837	-	164	99,840	1,569	44,341	99,729	498	394	78,250		338,298
Expenditures:															
Operating:															
Public safety and legal services		-		•	-	_	105,178	837	-	-	_	*	13,925	_	119,940
Physical health and social services		-			_	-	1,500	_	*		-		_	_	1,500
County environment and education				-	-	_	18,000	-	-	616	946		-	_	19,562
Governmental services to residents		-		4,200	-	28,773	·	-	-	-	_	*		-	32,973
Administration					42,250		23,463	•	46,107	99,161	_			-	210,981
Total expenditures				4,200	42.250	28,773	148,141	837	46,107	99,777	946		13,925	-	384,956
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures		10,676		(1,363)	(42,250)	(28,609)	(48,301)	732	(1,766)	(48)	(448)	394	64,325	•	(46,658)
Fund balances beginning of year		58,226		7,000	44,521	36,930	175.470	1,995	1,799	48	2,724	37,628	N	7,638	373,979
Fund balances end of year	\$	68,902	<u>s</u>	5,637	\$ 2,271	<u>\$ 8,321</u>	\$ 127,169	<u>\$ 2,727</u>	\$ 33	\$ -	<u>\$</u> 2,276	\$ 38,022	\$ 64,325	\$ 7,638	\$ 327,321

Schedule 3

CHEROKEE COUNTY COMBINING SCHEDULE OF FIDUCIARY ASSETS AND LIABILITIES - AGENCY FUNDS

n	INF	30	2005	
- 10	/ 433 /	1111		

												Auto				
	County		gricultural	County			ommunity					License and				
	Offices	I	xtension	Assessor	Schools	(Colleges	C	orporations	Townshi	DS	Use Tax		Other		Total
ASSETS Cash and pooled investments:																
County treasurer	S -	5	2,036	\$ 112,297	\$ 99,295	\$	5,915	S	53,961	\$ 2,62	26	\$ 281,303	\$ 2	298,107	\$	855,540
Other County officials	55,682		-	_	_		•		_	_		-		-		55,682
Receivables:																
Property tax:																
Delinquent	-		98	210	4,802		221		3,354	5	53	•••		1		8,739
Succeeding year	-		145,260	310,790	6,647,420		320,679		2,620,135	186,83	35			1,937	1	0,233,056
Accounts	12,446		-	-	-		-		-	=		-		1,939		14,385
Special assessments	-			_	_		*		-	_		-		225,006		225,006
Total assets	\$ 68,128	\$	147,394	\$ 423,297	\$ 6,751,517	\$_	326,815	\$	2,677,450	\$ 189,51	4	<u>\$ 281,303</u>	\$:	526,990	S I	1,392,408
LIABILITIES																
Accounts payable	\$ -	\$	~	\$ -	\$ -	\$	•	\$	~	\$ -		\$ -	\$	4,996	\$	4,996
Trusts payable	18,754		**		~		-		~	_				_		18,754
Due to other governments	49,374	***	147,394	423,297	6,751,517		326,815		2,677,450	189,51	4	281,303		521,994	1	1,368,658
Total liabilities	\$ 68,128	S	147,394	\$ 423,297	\$ 6,751,517	\$	326,815	\$	2,677,450	\$ 189,51	4	\$ 281,303	\$:	526,990	\$ 1	1,392,408

CHEROKEE COUNTY COMBINING SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY ASSETS

AND LIABILITIES - AGENCY FUNDS YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2005

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2005	Schedule 4
	Anto

	County Offices	Agricultural Extension	County Assessor	Schools	Community Colleges	Corporations	Townships	Auto License and <u>Use Tax</u>	Other	Total
ASSETS AND LIABILITIES										
Balances beginning of year	\$ 69,766	<u>\$ 144,014</u>	<u>\$ 454,033</u>	\$ 7,127,464	\$ 279,403	\$ 2,605,991	\$ 175,616	\$ 245,354	\$ 471,029	<u>\$11,572,670</u>
Additions:										
Property and other County tax	-	146,076	313,464	6,686,498	322,269	2,506,249	188,613		1,946	10,165,115
E911 surcharge	-	_		_	-		-	_	97,022	97,022
State tax credits	-	9,654	21,512	471,321	18,566	178,695	11,088	-	129	710,965
Office fees and collections	291,360	_	3,400	-	•	·	<u>,</u>	-	475,040	769,800
Electronic transaction fee	-	_	•		-	*	-	-	2,151	2,151
Auto licenses, use tax, and postage	~	-	-	-	-	<u>.</u>	-	2,945,353	-	2,945,353
Trusts	-	wa.	-	-	*	-	_	-	168,592	168,592
Miscellaneous	-	W.	150	-			-		230,987	231,137
Total additions	<u>291,360</u>	155,730	338,526	7,157,819	340,835	2,684,944	199,701	2,945,353	975,867	15,090,135
Deductions:										
Agency remittances:										
To other governments	260,610	152,350	369,262	7,533,766	293,423	2,613,485	185,803	2,909,404	869,298	15,187,401
Trusts paid out	32,388		-	- 7		,~,~,,~~	*******	~,20,4,0,4	50,608	82,996
Total deductions	292,998	152,350	369,262	7,533,766	293,423	2,613,485	185,803	2,909,404	919,906	15,270,397
Balances end of year	\$68,128	\$ 147,394	\$ 423,297	\$ 6,751,517	\$ 326,815	\$ 2,677,450	\$ 189,514	\$ 281,303	\$ 526,990	\$ 11,392,408

CHEROKEE COUNTY SCHEDULE OF REVENUES BY SOURCE AND EXPENDITURES BY FUNCTION - ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

FOR THE LAST FOUR YEARS

Schedule 5

	Modified Accrual Basis										
	OAR CHICAGO	2005	2004	2003	2002						
Revenues:											
Property and other County tax	\$	3,210,233	\$ 3,436,192	\$ 3,334,378	\$2,998,740						
Interest and penalty on property tax		28,397	35,093	35,966	37,817						
Tax increment financing		99,729	109,332	99,114	50,219						
Intergovernmental		4,459,666	4,232,454	5,161,854	4,065,881						
Licenses and permits		108,040	103,453	39,489	37,266						
Charges for service		335,183	321,542	242,519	220,468						
Use of money and property		130,554	123,060	187,829	287,402						
Miscellaneous	*******	135,606	<u>59,516</u>	45,934	<u>104,829</u>						
Total	\$	8,507,408	\$ 8,420,642	\$ 9,147,083	\$7,802,622						
Expenditures:											
Operating:											
Public safety and legal services	\$	1,454,196	\$ 1,370,125	\$ 1,320,597	\$1,231,163						
Physical health and social services		707,775	663,044	647,641	654,557						
Mental health		1,058,419	942,271	936,183	994,105						
County environment and education		477,898	454,172	443,347	430,844						
Roads and transportation		2,695,879	2,764,505	2,410,874	2,460,040						
Governmental services to residents		278,675	250,100	223,760	213,477						
Administration		964,982	911,033	873,962	853,086						
Capital projects	NAMES OF THE PERSON NAMES	1,474,330	2,656,062	2,128,600	1,590,394						
Total	<u>\$</u>	9,112,154	\$10,011,312	\$ 8,984,964	\$8,427,666						

HUNZELMAN, PUTZIER & CO., PLC CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

WESLEY E STILLE, C.P.A.
JEFFORY B. STARK, C.P.A.
KEITH C, GERMANN, C.P.A.
RICHARD R. MOORE, C.P.A.
KENNETH A. PUTZIER, C.P.A. (RETIRED)
W.J. HUNZELMAN, C.P.A. 1921-1997

1100 WEST MILWAUKEE STORM LAKE, IOWA 50588 712-732-3653 FAX 712-732-3662 info@hococoa.com

Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control over Financial
Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an
Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance
with Government Auditing Standards

To the Officials of Cherokee County:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Cherokee County, Iowa, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2005, which collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements listed in the table of contents and have issued our report thereon dated October 18, 2005. We conducted our audit in accordance with U.S. generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered Cherokee County's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting. However, we noted certain matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be reportable conditions. Reportable conditions involve matters coming to our attention relating to significant deficiencies in the design or operation of the internal control over financial reporting that, in our judgment, could adversely affect Cherokee County's ability to record, process, summarize, and report financial data consistent with the assertions of management in the financial statements. Reportable conditions are described in Part I of the accompanying Schedule of Findings.

A material weakness is a reportable condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements caused by error or fraud in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control that might be reportable conditions and, accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all reportable conditions that are also considered to be material weaknesses. However, of the reportable conditions described above, we believe items I-(A,B,D,E,F, and G)-05 are material weaknesses.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Cherokee County's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards. However, we noted certain immaterial instances of noncompliance or other matters that are described in Part II of the accompanying Schedule of Findings.

Comments involving statutory and other legal matters about the County's operations for the year ended June 30, 2005 are based exclusively on knowledge obtained from procedures performed during our audit of the financial statements of the County. Since our audit was based on tests and samples, not all transactions that might have had an impact on the comments were necessarily audited. The comments involving statutory and other legal matters are not intended to constitute legal interpretations of those statutes.

This report, a public record by law, is intended solely for the information and use of the officials, employees, and citizens of Cherokee County and other parties to whom Cherokee County may report including federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities. This report is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

We would like to acknowledge the many courtesies and assistance extended to us by personnel of Cherokee County during the course of our audit. Should you have any questions concerning any of the above matters, we shall be pleased to discuss them with you at your convenience. Hungelman, Putyier & Co.

October 18, 2005

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2005

Part I: Findings Related to the Financial Statements:

INSTANCES OF NON-COMPLIANCE:

No matters were reported.

REPORTABLE CONDITIONS:

I-A-05 Segregation of Duties - During our review of internal control, the existing procedures are evaluated in order to determine that incompatible duties, from a control standpoint, are not performed by the same employee. This segregation of duties helps to prevent losses from employee error or dishonesty and therefore maximizes the accuracy of the County's financial statements. We noted that generally one or two individuals in an office may have control over the following areas for which no compensating controls exist.

Recommendation - We realize that with a limited number of office employees, segregation of duties is difficult. However, each official should review the operating procedures of their office to obtain the maximum internal control possible under the circumstances. The official should utilize current personnel to provide additional control through review of financial transactions, reconciliations, and reports. Such reviews should be performed by independent persons to the extent possible, and should be evidenced by initials or signature of the reviewer and the date of the review. Following are controls which should be implemented whenever possible:

- All incoming mail should be opened by an employee who is not authorized to make entries to the accounting records. This employee should prepare a listing of cash and checks received. The mail should then be forwarded to the accounting personnel for processing. Later, the same listing should be compared to the cash receipt records.
- 2. Bank accounts should be reconciled promptly at the end of each month by an individual who does not sign checks, handle or record cash.
- 3. Checks or warrants should be signed by an individual who does not otherwise participate in the preparation of the checks or warrants. Prior to signing, the checks or warrants and the supporting documentation should be reviewed for propriety. After signing, the checks or warrants should be mailed without allowing them to return to individuals who prepare the checks or warrants or approve vouchers for payment.

Response - 1. With limited staff, each office maintains their own level of supervision for segregation of duties with respect to incoming mail, bank reconciliation, and checks and warrants signatures. 2. Bank reconciliation will be done in a timely manner. 3. Claims are reviewed for errors and clear descriptions by staff that does not enter claims. Warrants will be mailed promptly. The respective officer monitors the duties of all employees under their supervision to insure secure internal controls.

Conclusion - Response accepted.

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2005

Part I: Findings Related to the Financial Statements: (Continued)

REPORTABLE CONDITIONS: (Continued)

I-B-05 Special Law Enforcement Proceeds - The Sheriff's department receives funds as a result of property forfeitures which are not recorded in the County's records. All funds received should be recorded in a separate project within the General Fund or in a separate Special Revenue fund type.

<u>Recommendation</u> - The Board should establish a policy relating to the receipt and disbursement of various special proceeds available to the County for law enforcement activities.

<u>Response</u> - Expense/revenue line items have been created to track this activity within the Special Revenue Fund Forfeited Property.

Conclusion - Response accepted.

I-C-05 Electronic Data Processing Systems - During our review of internal control, the existing control activities in the County's computer based systems were evaluated in order to determine that activities, from a control standpoint, were designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the achievement of objectives in the reliability of financial reporting, effectiveness and efficiency of operations, and compliance with applicable laws and regulations. The following weaknesses in the County's computer based systems were noted:

The County does not have written policies for:

- password privacy and confidentiality,
- requiring password changes because software does not require the user to change logins/passwords periodically,
- ensuring that software not licensed to the County is not installed on a personal computer.

Also, the County does not have a written disaster recovery plan.

<u>Recommendation</u> - The County should develop written policies addressing the above items in order to improve the County's control over computer based systems. A written disaster recovery plan should be developed.

Response - A written policy to insure password privacy for all network systems is being prepared to be approved by the Board of Supervisors. The system will prompt logins/password changes periodically. An agreement with SIMPCO has been made to complete the disaster plan for the County as of January 2006.

Conclusion - Response accepted.

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2005

Part I: Findings Related to the Financial Statements: (Continued)

REPORTABLE CONDITIONS: (Continued)

I-D-05 <u>Capital Asset Dispositions</u> - We noted that the County received \$30,000 during the year for the sale of a motorgrader. However, we did not note board approval of this sale.

<u>Recommendation</u> - The County should adopt a policy to require authorization for capital asset disposals whether by trade, sale, or other method.

<u>Response</u> - The Board of Supervisors will require all trade or sale of capital assets be authorized by action of the Supervisors. A form has been prepared that is to be signed by the Department Officer and the Chairman of the Supervisors at the time of action.

Conclusion - Response accepted.

I-E-05 <u>Duplicate Payments</u> - We noted instances in both the Mental Health and Secondary Roads departments where an invoice amount was paid twice. In both situations the errors were eventually corrected.

<u>Recommendation</u> - The department heads should review their procedures for submitting claims to the auditor's office to ensure they are paying from an original invoice and that there are no duplicated payments.

<u>Response</u> - Departments will be encouraged to review all claims and the Auditor's office will pay from original invoices only.

Conclusion - Response accepted.

I-F-05 <u>Mileage Reimbursement</u> - Claims for mileage reimbursement from the Emergency Management Agency director did not indicate destinations or purpose of the travel.

<u>Recommendation</u> - All claims for travel reimbursements should be supported by proper documentation which indicates the destination and purpose. Any claims not properly supported should be treated as a taxable fringe benefit to the employee.

<u>Response</u> - Departments will be reminded to document claims for mileage and the purpose of the trip.

Conclusion - Response accepted.

1-G-05 Sheriff's Trust Funds - The Sheriff holds certain funds in trust awaiting disposition by the courts. As of June 30, 2005 there was approximately \$4,200 being held which could not be identified.

<u>Recommendation</u> - The trust funds should be reconciled regularly and any discrepancies investigated immediately.

Response -The trust fund will be reconciled. A revolving trust fund will no longer be held. All funds are going directly to the Clerk of Court. Dispositions of the funds that are currently being held are being discussed with the appropriate Clerk of Court.

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2005

Part I: Findings Related to the Financial Statements: (Continued)

REPORTABLE CONDITIONS: (Continued)

I-G-05 Sheriff's Trust Funds - (Continued)

Conclusion - Response accepted.

Part II: Other Findings Related to Required Statutory Reporting:

- II-A-05 Official Depositories A resolution naming official depositories has been adopted by the Board. The maximum deposit amounts stated in the resolution were not exceeded during the year ended June 30, 2005.
- II-B-05 <u>Certified Budget</u> Disbursements during the year ended June 30, 2005 did not exceed the amount budgeted in any service area.
- II-C-05 <u>Questionable Expenditures</u> No expenses that may not meet the requirements of public purpose as defined in an Attorney General's opinion dated April 25, 1979 were noted.
- II-D-05 <u>Travel Expense</u> No expenditures of County money for travel expenses of spouses of County officials or employees were noted.
- II-E-05 <u>Business Transactions</u> Business transactions between the County and County officials or employees are detailed as follows:

Name, Title, and Business Connection	Transaction Description	Amount
Ronald Wetherell, Supervisor, Part owner of Wetherell Manufacturing	Parts, repairs, and supplies	\$4,034
Chris Staver, spouse of Sheriff Department employee, owner of High Country Auto Body	Parts and repairs	\$ 304
LeRoy Schoon, Supervisor, Owner of Schoon Construction, Inc.	Tower rent, parts	\$3,513
Thomas R. Jenness, Weed Commissioner	Well closings and tiling	\$1,492
Larry Walker, Secondary road employee	Land rent	\$ 488
Dan Hingtgen, spouse of Central Point Coordinator, part owner of L&H Engineers	Engineering	\$ 700

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2005

Part II: Other Findings Related to Required Statutory Reporting: (Continued)

II-E-05 <u>Business Transactions</u> - (Continued)

In accordance with Chapter 331.342(10) of the Code of Iowa, the transactions with Chris Staver, Thomas R. Jenness, Larry Walker, and Dan Hingtgen do not appear to be conflicts of interest since total transactions were less than \$1,500 during the fiscal year. The other transactions may represent a conflict of interest.

<u>Recommendation</u> - The County should review those transactions closely and may want to consult their attorney to determine that they are in compliance with the Code of Iowa.

Response - All business transactions are monitored at the time of payment. This is a small County and purchases are made locally whenever possible and many times they are the only vendor available in the County for that service. The County Attorney is reviewing these transactions to determine if they are in compliance with the Code of Iowa and what remedial action, if any, is required.

<u>Conclusion</u> - Response accepted.

- II-F-05 <u>Bond Coverage</u> Surety bond coverage of County officials and employees is in accordance with statutory provisions.
- II-G-05 <u>Board Minutes</u> No transactions were found that we believe should have been approved in the Board minutes but were not.
- II-H-05 <u>Deposits and Investments</u> No instances of non-compliance with the deposit and investment provisions of Chapters 12B and 12C of the Code of Iowa and the County's investment policy were noted.
- II-I-05 Resource Enhancement and Protection Certification The County properly dedicated property tax revenue to conservation purposes as required by Chapter 455A.19(1)(b) of the Code of Iowa in order to receive the additional REAP funds allocated in accordance with subsections (b)(2) and (b)(3).
- II-J-05 County Extension Office The County Extension Office is operated under the authority of Chapter 176A of the Code of Iowa and serves as an agency of the State of Iowa. This fund is administered by an extension Council separate and distinct from County operations and, consequently, is not included in Exhibits A or B.

Disbursements during the year ended June 30, 2005 did not exceed the amount budgeted.

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2005

Part II: Other Findings Related to Required Statutory Reporting: (Continued)

II-K-05 Special Appraiser's Budget - Disbursements during the year ended June 30, 2005 exceeded the amount budgeted for the Special Appraiser's fund.

<u>Recommendation</u> - The budget should have been amended before disbursements were allowed to exceed the budget.

<u>Response</u> - Communication between the Assessor's Office and the Auditor's Office will be monitored more closely so the funds do not go over budget.

Conclusion - Response accepted.

II-L-05 Outstanding Warrants - There are fifty-four warrants totaling approximately \$5,700 which have been outstanding for over one year.

<u>Recommendation</u> - Chapter 331.554(7) of the Code of Iowa authorizes the auditor to cancel these warrants and credit the amount of the warrants to the funds upon which the warrants were drawn.

<u>Response</u> - The Auditor's Office will work with the Treasurer to cancel these warrants and credit the proper accounts. The way our computer system operates, the County Treasurer performs this procedure. We have applied outstanding warrants to the proper accounts through the 2000 year, and will apply more this fiscal year.

Conclusion - Response accepted.